

**Agenda for the Dade Heritage Trust Executive Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, August 18, 1999**  
**Dade Heritage Trust**  
**12 Noon**

Call to Order—Enid Pinkney

Approval of Minutes

Treasurer's Report—Bill Murphy  
Insurance Renewal with ACC Hall

Grant submitted to Cultural Affairs Council for Dade Heritage Days

New part-time staff for Special Events and Dade Heritage Days

Committee for Dade Heritage Days and Fundraising

Grant to State Bureau of Historic Preservation—DHT Website ("Restore It Now!"—  
HistoricSites—Saveabuilding—etc.) or "Women's Heritage Sites in South Florida: A  
Selfguided Tour"

Restoration Workshop Sept. 18, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Wyndham Hotel—"The Dollars and Sense  
of Saving Historic Neighborhoods"

Restoration Program Oct. 7 with Harriett Plyler—UM Kubek Center (?)

List of Most Endangered Sites—George Neary

Florida Historic Tours

Preservation Today Newsletter

Miami Circle

Preservation Today magazine

Miami's Historic Neighborhoods Book

Annual Evaluation of Staff

**DADE HERITAGE TRUST**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Wednesday July 15,1999</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<b>Office of Luis Ajamil 2610 S. Bayshore Dr.     10<sup>th</sup> Floor</b>

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Judy Pruitt</b>	<b>Absent:</b>	<b>Tina Lane</b>
<b>Enid Pinkney</b>	<b>Neil Robertson</b>	<b>Penny Lambeth</b>	<b>Margaret Pelton</b>
<b>Bill Murphy</b>	<b>Gene Tinnie</b>	<b>Luis Ajamil</b>	<b>Randall Robinson</b>
<b>Rachel Parsons</b>	<b>Jeanette Poole</b>	<b>B. J. Smith</b>	
<b>George Neary</b>	<b>Thorn Grafton</b>	<b>Don MacCullough</b>	
<b>Becky R Matkov</b>	<b>Richard Heisenbottle</b>	<b>Herb Sosa</b>	
<b>Jane Caporelli</b>	<b>Advisors:</b>	<b>Patricia Allen</b>	
<b>Dolly MacIntyre</b>	<b>Gary Held</b>	<b>Raeganne Eastman</b>	
<b>Blanca Mesa</b>	<b>Ruth Jacobs</b>	<b>Joyce Kory</b>	

The meeting was called to order by Enid Pinkney at 6pm.

**I. Approval of the Minutes:**

A motion to approve the minutes of June 16, 1999 was made by Richard Heisenbottle , seconded by Bill Murphy, passed.

**II. Treasurer's Report:**

Bill Murphy presented the DHT 1998-1999 Budget Report 7/1/98 through 6/30/99, and the DHT 1999-2000 Proposed Budget 7/1/98 through 6/30/2000.

A motion to accept the 1998-1999 Budget Report and the DHT 1999-2000 Proposed Budget was made by Richard Heisenbottle, seconded by Jeanette Poole, passed.

Bill Murphy discussed and requested that we change from our current auditor Morrison Brown to Fritz Grant. Grant, a CPA in Lauderhill. Currently we are paying \$6,500 and the new firm will be charging \$2,500 for the same services.

A motion to change from our current auditor to Fritz Grant was made by Richard Heisenbottle, seconded by Neil Robertson, passed.

Jane Caporelli asked if there was any responsibility on the part of the city to maintain equipment, i.e. the air conditioner. Bill Murphy said he would look into this.

**III. Executive Directors Report: Becky Matkov**

**A. Miami's Historic Neighborhoods Book:**

Becky asked for Board assistance in selling profiles for the book.

The Deering Estate offered the use of the property to DHT on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2000. The Board discussed the possibility of using this as a "Kickoff Event" for Dade Heritage Days with a focus on the presentation of the Historic Neighborhoods Book.

**B. Preservation Today Fall 1999 – Preservation Today- The theme " Dollars and Sense of Restoration".** Becky strongly encouraged the Board to sell ads for the upcoming Preservation Today fall issue. \*\* See attached copy of advertising rates.\*\*

C. Newsletter:

Dolly MacIntyre offered to work on this project and requested Board input and participation. Richard Heisenbottle suggested that we need a staff person to undertake the responsibility of this project.

D. Membership Directory:

Office Manager Marisol McManus is working on updating the membership.

E. State grant proposal deadline August 31<sup>st</sup>-

Becky Matkov is working on this grant with the focus on "Women in Miami's History", with prospective seminars and workshops. Jeanette Poole, Ruth Jacobs, and Dolly MacIntyre will work with Becky on this project.

**IV. Presidents Report- Enid Pinkney –**

Enid reported that she was involved in a video produced for Television by CNN about "Remembrances About Virginia Key." She will be talking with Al Ruder.

**V. Committee Reports:**

A. Miami Circle: Gary Held-

The fundraiser that was scheduled for July 30<sup>th</sup> has been canceled. There is a possibility that the area restaurants that had committed to the event will host more intimate dinners of ten.

There was a general discussion regarding the legal status regarding the Circle. The consensus of the Board was that, as an organization, DHT should exhaust all efforts with advocacy and negotiations before entering into litigation.

There will be a meeting on July 28<sup>th</sup>, at 4100 N.E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Suite 304, 8:30 am at the Backus Turner International for the committee to get together and come up with a new approach.

B. "Building Bridges Fundraiser"- Luis Ajamil- Report given by B. Matkov-

Governor Jeb Bush will not be able to attend the event. Becky is to contact Luis Ajamil to discuss with him if he is still willing to chair the fundraiser, otherwise we need to immediately find another Chair or co-chairs. Dolly MacIntyre suggested that the committee meet to come up with a Chair.

C. City Cemetery and Public Relations- Penny Lambeth

Penny was not available to report on the progress of the Cemetery project or regarding her recent trip to Washington D.C.

D. Projects- Richard Heisenbottle-

Rich read aloud a letter for approval by the Board to confirm DHT's proposed participation in the video documentary, "The History of Bobby Maduro Stadium." \*\*See that letter attached to these minutes.\*\*

E. Volunteer Utilization- Dolly MacIntyre-

A motion was made to nominate Dolly MacIntyre as "Volunteer Coordinator" by George Neary, seconded by Rachel Parsons, passed.

F. Tours- Judy Pruitt-

Judy is hosting a committee meeting at her home on Monday, July 19<sup>th</sup> to come up with a final recommendation regarding DHT partnering with "BAA/ Florida Historical Tours." George Neary expressed his opinion that this can be turned into a significant project for DHT and has offered to work with this committee. The committee is to bring specific recommendations back to the Board.

G. Advocacy- George Neary-

General discussion regarding the "Penny Tax." and the Bridge of Lions in St. Augustine \*\* See letters in the agenda package for the meeting on July 14<sup>th</sup>- "DCA" and to" Mr. Joel Glenn."\*\*\* The public voting for the "Transit Not Tolls" is on July 29<sup>th</sup>.

"Endangered List"- After discussion and input from the Board it was suggested by Bill Murphy that the Advocacy Committee meet to establish the "Endangered List." The Committee will get more

information on the status of each site and why they feel that it should be on the list. The Board suggested that on the list the Freedom Tower should be #1, with The Miami Circle #2.

H. Virginia Key- Gene Tinnie-

**\*\*See attached "Virginia Key Progress Report" \*\***

I. Educational Outreach- Ruth Jacobs-

General Discussion regarding status of the Larkin School. B.J. Smith is working with teachers at the Miami Shores Elementary School to establish a "Miami and Me" program.

DHT presently does not have a Web site. Jane Caporelli volunteered to look into finding a Web site host. There is great grant potential in establishing for example a "Historic sites Web site." Richard Heisenbottle asked that Becky apply for an educational grant[s] to provide this educational opportunity. Neil Robertson suggested that the Knight Foundation is a possible source for an educational grant, and asked Becky to look into this.

J. Membership Development- Don MacCullough- No report available.

J. Development/Planned Giving- Bill Murphy- No report available.

**VII. Adjournment-** The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

No meeting is scheduled for August. The next Board meeting will be Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at The Miami River Inn, 118 S.W. River Drive, (305) 325-0045, at 5:30pm.

**Dade Heritage Trust Executive Committee Meeting**

**Date:** May 25, 1999

**Attending:** Enid Pinkney  
Thorn Grafton  
Bill Murphy

Jeanette Poole  
Becky Matkov

**Treasurer's Report:**

Review included discussion on:

1. \$20,000 grant received from the Dunspaugh-Dalton Foundation for general support of DHT's efforts.
2. Higher printing expenses related to Dade Heritage Days
3. Book profile sales, which are moving slower than expected.
4. A focus on membership renewals (two "pre" reminders are sent and one "post" reminder is sent with a personal note)

**Motion to Accept:**

Moved: Thorn Grafton  
Second: Jeanette Poole

**Approved**

**Bobby Maduro Stadium Presentation**

Bill Brown, Head of Archives and Special Collections at the University of Miami, came to update us on the status of this 50-year-old baseball facility located in the Allapatah section of the City of Miami. Mr. Brown, Rolando Llanes (previously with UM School of Architecture) and John Graham (filmmaker) are considering a one-hour documentary to explore the stadium's cultural and historical role in our community beyond a wide variety of sports events. They are looking to partner with appropriate organizations and to find a "home" for funds they may raise for the documentary project (budget: \$50-\$60 M).

The City has recently sold the property to private individuals to develop into low-cost housing and this may not work out. There are others considering a quasi-sports oriented complex, a baseball complex for Caribbean based teams or a small business facility like Camden Yards.

Thorn suggested pursuing a National Trust Critical Issues Grant which he will follow up on for them. This would be to study adaptive re-use of the property.

The Executive Committee will discuss this and make a proposal to the Board.

**Motion:** To pursue participation in a documentary and book subject to legal advice about DHT's legal exposure in the project.

Moved: Bill Murphy  
Second: Jeanette Poole

**Approved**

### **Miami Circle Fundraising Concert Support**

On June 20<sup>th</sup> there will be a Summer Solstice concert and the group has partnered with the Vision Earth Society instead of DHT. They requested our letter of endorsement, but we need a better understanding of where the proceeds will go before we issue our endorsement.

This was approved, subject to receipt of satisfactory explanation.

### **Miami Circle Fundraiser 7/30/99**

The County and Backus Turner Advertising are leading a committee to plan a \$100-\$150 pp event at the Cultural Plaza on July 30<sup>th</sup> to raise Circle acquisition funds.

### **Gusman Center Letter of Support**

Requested for the Special Category Grant (although there may be some conflict with the Wagner Homestead and grant)

#### **Motion to Approve:**

Moved: Bill Murphy

Second: Jeanette Poole

**Approved**

### **Cemetery Conference Expenses**

A request by a Board member to fund the travel and conference expenses for an upcoming seminar prompted an in-depth discussion on appropriate use of DHT's funds.

A motion was made to create (for FY 1999 only) the *Chairman's Fund*, a \$500.00 discretionary fund to be allocated for DHT appropriate uses and causes. The expenditures are to be determined solely by the Chair and are not for the personal benefit of the Chair.

#### **Motion to Accept**

Moved: Bill Murphy

Second: Jeanette Poole

**Approved**

### **Building Bridges Award Dinner**

Tentatively scheduled for 10/9 or 10/16, with a focus on Gov. Bush and Mayor Penelas. Luis Ajamil will coordinate the event format and presentation (not tables, flowers, etc.) and we are looking for an active Board participation and suggestions for an appropriate historic location.

**Adjourned at 4:45 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted:

## Bank Reconciliation

Dade Heritage Trust  
July-99

	Northern Trust		NorthernTrust	NorthernTrust
	Lighthouse (1020)	Checking (1030)	20000.00	Restricted (1000)
		Investment (1050)	38035.13	(SOC Fund)
Bank Statement Balance	<u>11241.97</u>		<u>58035.13</u>	<u>\$ 25,929.30</u>
Outstanding Checks:				
<del>\$ 67412</del>	787.80	1537	75.00	
		1602	200.00	
		1619	301.00	
		1621	50.00	
		1629	40.50	
		1631	116.96	
		1638	100.00	
		1639	334.01	
		1642	400.00	
		1643	225.00	
Total O/S Checks	787.80		1842.47	
Bank Charges				
Deposits in Transit				
<b>Total</b>	<u>10454.17</u>		<u>56192.66</u>	<u>25929.30</u>
Check Book Balance	10444.94		56002.14	25907.80
Dividend/Interest Income	9.23		190.51	21.50
Bank Charges				
Credits				
Adjusted Check Book Balance	10454.17		56192.65	25929.30
Difference:	0.00		(0.01)	0.00

Profit & Loss Statement  
7/1/99 Through 7/31/99

Category Description	7/1/99- 7/31/99
<b>INCOME</b>	
3100-Membership Dues	655.00
3200-Donations	870.00
3400-Publication Sales	453.15
3900-Interest Income	9.23
3901-Investment/Dividend Income	212.01
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>2,199.39</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
5000-Salary Expenses	5,203.86
5115-DHT Meetings - catering	91.64
5120-Merchandise Purchase	787.80
5300-Repairs & Maintenance	249.00
5400-Permits & Licenses	125.00
5450-Waste Removal	289.98
5600-Utilities	487.68
5700-Insurance	1,250.00
5710-Accountant Fees	1,000.00
5810-Printing	31.00
5840-Seminars/Conferences/Meetings	15.00
6010-Payroll Taxes	411.94
6015-Medical Insurance	341.00
6200-Vehicles Expense	25.50
6300-Payroll Processing Service	76.75
6310-Office Supplies	212.96
6320-Telephone	304.20
6330-Dues & Subscriptions	238.98
6500-Bank Charges	10.00
6610-Equipment - Lease & Maintenance	336.45
6810-Postage	400.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>11,888.74</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME - EXPENSES</b>	<b>-9,689.35</b>



## Assets

### Current Assets

Miami Circle Acct	\$ 25,929.30
Florida Lighthouse	10454.17
DHT Operating Acct.	20000.00
DHT Mutual Fund	36192.65

Prepaid Expenses	1256.89
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<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 93,833.01</b>
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Property & Equipment	\$ 24,119.79	
Accumulated Depreciation	(22437.06)	
		<b>1682.73</b>

### Other Assets

Deposits

Total Other Assets	<b>0.00</b>
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<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 95,515.74</b>
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## Liabilities & Fund Balances

### Current Liabilities

Accrued Expenses - Other

Total Current Liabilities	\$ -
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Long-Term Liabilities	0.00
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Total Long-Term Liabilities	0.00
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<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
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### Fund Balances

Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 105,205.08
Current Net Income (loss)	(9689.35)

<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<b>\$ 95,515.73</b>
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<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Fund Balances</b>	<b>\$ 95,515.73</b>
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Note:	0.01
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This statement will be revised as soon as the audit is completed and correct figures are stated for Liabilities and Fixed Assets (as well as Depreciation Schedule)

**DADE  
HERITAGE  
TRUST**

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M. Athalie Range  
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**EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR**  
Becky Roper Matkov

August 3, 1999

Secretary Katherine Harris  
Department of State  
The Capitol  
Tallahassee, FL . 32300-0250

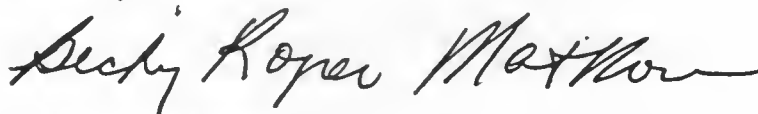
Dear Secretary Harris,

On behalf of Dade Heritage Trust, Miami-Dade County's largest historic preservation nonprofit organization, I am writing to support the Colony Theater's application for a Cultural Facilities grant.

Built in the 1930s as a Paramount movie theater, the Colony is poised to be a valuable cultural asset for our future. This grant will enable the Colony to host a wider range of performances on its stage and to become ADA compliant, making it accessible to all our citizens.

Your support of this grant application is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Becky Roper Matkov  
Executive Director

1999-2000 OFFICERS

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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
Becky Roper Matkov

**DADE  
HERITAGE  
TRUST**

August 4, 1999

Ms. Ellen Uguccioni  
Director, Historic Preservation Department  
City of Coral Gables  
405 Biltmore Way  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Dear Ellen,

On behalf of Dade Heritage Trust, Miami-Dade County's largest historic preservation nonprofit organization, I am writing to support the nomination of Gay Bondurant to the Historic Preservation Board of Coral Gables.

Gay is a long-time resident of Coral Gables who has been very involved in her community. She regularly gives Sunday tours of the Biltmore Hotel and has orchestrated numerous walking and trolley tours and conferences showcasing the heritage of Coral Gables.

Gay is a very knowledgeable preservationist who served on the Board of Trustees of Dade Heritage Trust for six years. For three years, she coordinated --as a volunteer-- Dade Heritage Days--an extraordinary accomplishment and commitment. She now serves on our DHT Board of Advisors and is an active and valued participant in many activities in the preservation arena.

Gay Bondurant would make an excellent addition to the Coral Gables Historic Preservation Board.

Sincerely,



Becky Roper Matkov  
Executive Director

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**EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR**  
Becky Roper Matkov

August 10, 1999

Mr. Lanny Smith  
Executive Director  
The Earthman Project  
1800 Michigan Avenue  
Miami Beach, FL 33139

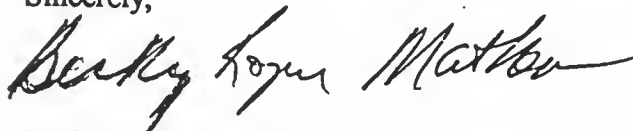
Dear Lanny,

Dade Heritage Trust, Miami-Dade County's largest historic preservation nonprofit organization, has appreciated the Earthman's performances in the past at our Dade Heritage Days' RiverDay festival in Lummus Park, and we look forward to working with you again this year.

Dade Heritage Days, as you know, is a two-month-long celebration of Miami-Dade County's cultural and environmental heritage with over 100 different events throughout our community. The Earthman Project fits in beautifully with this theme and adds a lot to the program.

Dade Heritage Days 2000 will be held March 18<sup>th</sup> through May 14<sup>th</sup>. RiverDay is traditionally the first Saturday in April. We look forward to partnering with you!

Sincerely,



Becky Roper Matkov  
Executive Director

**DADE  
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**EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR**  
Becky Roper Matkov

August 16, 1999

Cultural Affairs Advisory Board  
City of Coral Gables  
C/O Ellen Uguccioni  
City Hall  
405 Biltmore Way  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Dear Cultural Affairs Advisory Board Members,

On behalf of Dade Heritage Trust, Miami-Dade County's largest historic preservation nonprofit organization, I am writing to encourage you to fund "A Guidebook to Coral Gables Architecture" by Richard Heisenbottle, Ellen Uguccioni and Aristides Millas.

The authors are seeking to produce this self-guided tour booklet in time for the national conference of the Society of Architectural Historians, which will be held at the Biltmore Hotel in June 2000. This will be a wonderful opportunity to present the history and sites of Coral Gables to an appreciative and knowledgeable audience from across the country.

In addition, the guidebooks will be of great value and interest to the public during Dade Heritage Days, our annual springtime celebration of Miami-Dade County's architectural and cultural heritage.

We urge your financial support of this most worthwhile undertaking.

Sincerely,



Becky Roper Matkov  
Executive Director

CARRIE P. MEEK  
17<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT, FLORIDA

COMMITTEE ON  
APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES  
TREASURY, POSTAL  
SERVICE, AND GENERAL  
GOVERNMENT

VA, HUD, AND  
INDEPENDENT AGENCIES



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-0917

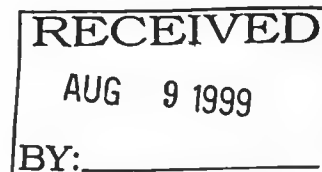
August 6, 1999

Please Respond To:

☐ 401 CANNON HOUSE  
OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4506  
(202) 226-0777 FAX

☐ 25 WEST FLAGLER STREET  
SUITE 1015  
MIAMI, FL 33130  
(305) 381-9541  
(305) 381-8376 FAX

Ms. Becky Matkov  
190 SE 12 Terrace  
Miami, Florida 33131



Dear Ms. Matkov:

Thank you for contacting me regarding your support of Senator Graham's bill calling for a feasibility study on the inclusion of the archaeological site known as the Miami Circle into Biscayne National Park. I appreciate having the benefit of your views on this issue.

I agree with you. As you can see in the enclosed information from the Library of Congress, I have introduced H.R. 2557, the companion legislation, which has been referred to the House Resources Committee. There has been no floor action to date.

Again, thank you for contacting me. Your input is always welcome.

Sincerely,

*Carrie P. Meek*

CARRIE P. MEEK  
Member of Congress

CPM/pm  
Enclosure

**Bill Summary & Status for the 106th Congress****Item 1 of 1****PREVIOUS BILL:ALL | NEXT BILL:ALL**  
**NEW SEARCH | HOME | HELP****H.R.2557****SPONSOR: Rep Meek, Carrie P (introduced 07/19/99)**Jump to: Titles, Status, Committees, Amendments, Cosponsors, Summary**TITLE(S):**

- OFFICIAL TITLE AS INTRODUCED:**

A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility study on the inclusion in Biscayne National Park, Florida, of the archaeological site known as the Miami Circle.

**STATUS: Floor Actions****\*\*\*NONE\*\*\*****STATUS: Detailed Legislative Status****House Actions****Jul 19, 99:**

Referred to the House Committee on Resources.

**STATUS: Congressional Record Page References****\*\*\*NONE\*\*\*****COMMITTEE(S):**

- COMMITTEE(S) OF REFERRAL:**  
House Resources

**AMENDMENT(S):****\*\*\*NONE\*\*\*****COSPONSOR(S):****\*\*\*NONE\*\*\***

Biscayne National Park  
9700 SW 328 Street  
Homestead, FL 33033-5634  
Phone: 305 230-1144



RECEIVED  
JUL 20 1999

FACSIMILE COVER PAGE

*Biscayne National Park is the largest marine park in the National Park System.*

MESSAGE:

Becky,

It was nice talking with you today.

Attached is Senator Graham's statement regarding S.762.

I wish you all the best w/ your foot.

Thank you for your support.

Wendy



To: Becky Matkov

Fax #: 305-358-1162

Company:

From: Wendy O'Sullivan

Fax #: 305-230-1190

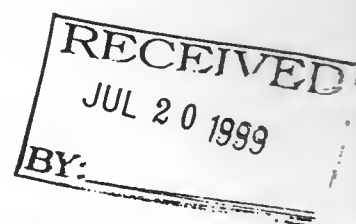
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Subject: Miami Circle

Sent: 7-19-99

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**Statement of Senator Bob Graham Regarding S. 762**  
**Senate Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation**  
**May 25, 1999**

Earlier this year, workers preparing land for the construction of a condominium development at the mouth of the Miami River began to notice a mysterious circular formation in the limestone bedrock that forms the foundation of the City of Miami. Further examination revealed that this site, where the River meets the Bay, was utilized by the prehistoric Tequesta civilization 2000 years ago. Since the site's discovery, the citizens and elected officials of Miami-Dade County have come together to ensure preservation of the Circle. Prayer vigils, rallies, and petitions for the Circle are frequent and passionate, and the residents of Miami, a city which only recently celebrated its 100th birthday, are fighting for the conservation and study of a culture that preceded them by two millennia.

I am eager to see the Park Service look into the feasibility of including the 2.7 acre Miami Circle site in Biscayne National Park. This is not only an appropriate addition, but will also lend greater continuity to the Park's existing archaeological resources. Since 1980, Biscayne National Park has stretched from Biscayne Bay near Miami to the northernmost Florida Keys, covering 180,000 acres, 95 percent of which is water. The Park is already home to over one hundred known archeological sites, the majority of which are submerged, as well as ten historic structures. Among those archaeological areas are several smaller, "satellite" Tequesta sites, which may have served as hunting or fishing camps for the ancient culture. Protection of the Miami Circle within the boundaries of the Park, in conjunction with these other camps, would allow for comprehensive site comparison, investigation and study. We must take seriously our responsibility as guardians of this cultural landmark and recognize that only through conservation and analysis will we be able to fully grasp the magnitude of this discovery.

**Introduction for Bob Carr, Miami Circle Project Director for Miami-Dade County Division of Historic Preservation**

I am pleased that Bob Carr is able to join us today. Mr. Carr is the former Director of Miami Dade County's Division of Historic Preservation and served in that capacity at the time of the discovery of the Circle. He is now the Executive Director of the Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, and is acting as the Project Director for the county's continuing excavation and exploration of the Miami Circle site. I feel confident that Bob is the right person to share with us an "on site" archaeologist's perspective and a sense of the South Florida community's support for saving the Circle.

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# Most Endangered Historic Sites

Date of Response: Aug/24/1999 (Tuesday)

*Italic = Side bar*

- 1) Freedom Tower - **Herb Sosa**
- 2) The Miami Circle - **George Neary**
- 3) The Bel Aire Hotel (North Beach) : - **Randall Robinson**  
The Carrillon Hotel (North Beach) – accordian wall architectual features-  
The Calvert (formerly Pritikin Conference Center on Collins Avenue - Royal York)
- 4) Sunny Isles Motels (Portions of Buildings)
- 5) Richter Library at the University of Miami? – **Randall Robinson \ Mike Stephens**
- 6) - *Gusman Theatre?*- **Thorn Grafton**  
- *Coconut Grove Playhouse?*
- 7) *Historic Hotel Names:* - **Heidi**
  - *Fairmont*
  - *Tiffany's*
  - *Etc.*
- 8) The Redland / Anderson's Corner / Redland Schoolhouse? – **Thorn Grafton**
- 9) Dade County's Historic Schoolhouses (Larkin School House at Sunset)– **Ruth Jacobs**
- 10) Curtis Mansion - **Jane Caporelli**
- 11) Miami Stadium – **Randall Robinson / Juan Liczaro???**
- 12) Victor Hotel (124 Collins) – **Tom Mooney**
- 13) Bungalows in Little Havana + Collection of Historic Art Deco Mediterranean Rival Structures in Little Havana – **Jane Corporelli**

## Future Disussions:

- a) Stiltsville
- b) Biscayne Boulevards Motels
- c) - Fointainblue  
- Eden Rac
- d) Firestone Building in Little Havana
- e) Virginia Key Marine Stadium
- f) Miami River
- g) Rowe Hotels (6600 Collins Avenue)
- h) The Monte Carlo (North Beach)
- i) Pebles / Bath Club

## 1.: Freedom Tower:

South Florida has had a long standing love affair with the Mediterranean style of architecture. This is best represented in the 1925, grand tower designed by Schultz & Weaver of N.Y.C., as the home of the Miami Daily News. After the downfall and eventual closing of the Miami Daily News, the tower sat vacant for many years. The Cuban wave of immigrants in the early sixties began to bring over 320 000 new inhabitants to the area. The old tower was re-opened as a U.S. government refugee processing and placement center. Thousands of new Miamians walked through the opulent archways and under the richly carved and painted ceilings of the tower – now known as the Freedom Tower – Miami's version of Ellis Island.

The Freedom Tower had fulfilled its latest task by the early 70's, and was closed once again. The grand lady sat derelict and dark – many of its elegant ironwork and windows, removed or destroyed.

A new owner in the early 1980's, a plan to convert it into a party and event center, along with a multi-million dollar renovation made the tower listen on the Miami skyline once again. Financial troubles plagued the project, and again its doors were shut, and its future uncertain.

In early 1997, Dade Heritage Trust, began an aggressive plan to acquire and restore the Freedom tower through a series of public and private funds. The State of Florida listed the Freedom Tower as the number one priority on the endangered list of historic properties in the state.

Jorge Mas Canosa, a Cuban American Businessman and community leader stepped in and purchased the Tower, and announced a plan to restore the tower, and create a permanent museum exhibit. Mr. Mas Canosa did not live to make this project a reality – his family announced over two years ago their intentions to fulfill their fathers dreams for the Freedom Tower.

To date, the building deteriorates – windowless and stripped of most of its decorative elements and its dignity. This is a sad way to celebrate our past and educate individuals about our community. Where is the pride of our heritage?

## 2.: The Miami Circle:

As many as two thousands years ago, on the mouth of the Miami River, the Native American tribe known as the Tequesta built a ceremonial temple or council house. Around that structure and others like it, the Tequesta settlement thrived encompassing a large area of what today is downtown Miami.

We know this, because in September 1998, archeologists made an incredible discovery in limestone bedrock. They discovered, what is now known as the Miami Circle, a prehistorical circle 38 feet in diameter. The circle had numerous postholes and an eye was carved in its eastern point. Particularly curious, were the remains of a six-foot shark as well as two basaltic stone axes not indigenous to Florida, but deliberately buried in the circle. These clues point to the remains of a Tequesta building of great importance. The Miami Circle may be one of the most important Native American archeological discoveries in South Florida and perhaps North America. As such, the site has to be

preserved for future generations. Items of historical significance are monuments to our forefathers and legacies to our children.

## **12.: Victor Hotel - 1144 Ocean Drive**

Constructed in 1937 and designed by prominent Art-Deco Architect L. Murry Dixon, the Victor Hotel is a designated contributing structure located within the Ocean Drive/Collins Avenue Local Historic District in the City of Miami Beach. In addition to being an icon on Ocean Drive, the Victor Hotel is one of the finest large scale Art-Deco era hotels in Miami Beach and is highlighted by a prominent southeast corner plane rising vertically above the roof and counterbalanced by strong bands of horizontal windows, especially on the principal facade.

The Victor Hotel has, unfortunately, been vacant for a number of years and yet still has retained a reasonable degree of architectural integrity in terms of exterior elevations.

The non-public interior area of the subject structure, however, has been gutted down to the bare concrete columns, beams, floor slabs, and concrete block (exterior) walls, leaving many or most of the original significant interior design features largely intact in the public interior spaces, including the lobby, grand mezzanine and the ballroom.

If something isn't done now, the sea-blown rain and salt air will continue entering the building periodically and effect the architecturally significant and sensitive lobby area, further threatening the original Earl LePan mural and remaining decorative details.

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**DADE HERITAGE TRUST SPONSORS  
"DOLLARS AND SENSE" RESTORATION WORKSHOP  
SEPT. 18th**

U. S. Rep. Clay Shaw and nationally acclaimed preservation expert Stanley Lowe will be featured speakers at a restoration workshop to be held Saturday, September 18, 1999, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Wyndham Biscayne Bay in Miami at the Omni.

Mr. Lowe will speak on "The Dollars and Sense of Saving Historic Neighborhoods" and will share his extensive experience in the revitalization of Pittsburgh. He will be joined by Howard Slaughter, the Director of Fannie Mae Pittsburgh, and Scott Brown, Senior Vice President of Mellon Bank.

Rep. Shaw, who has led efforts in Congress to pass the Historic Homeownership Assistance Act, will give the opening address.

Ellen Uguccioni, Historic Preservation Director of the City of Coral Gables, will discuss strategies that can be used in making preservation policies succeed locally.

The workshop is sponsored by Dade Heritage Trust, Miami-Dade County's largest historic preservation nonprofit organization, and the City of Miami Alliance of Historic Districts.

Support was received from the Wyndham, Alamo, The Elizabeth Ordway Dunn Foundation, and the Bureau of Historic Preservation, Division of Historical Resources, Florida Department of State, assisted by the Historic Preservation Advisory Council.

Cost of the workshop is \$17.50, which includes lunch. To register, call Dade Heritage Trust, 305-358-9572.

"The Dollars & Sense of Saving Historic Neighborhoods"  
Saturday, September 18, 1999  
Proposed Agenda

9:15 a.m. Welcome

Becky Roper Matkov, Executive Director, Dade Heritage Trust  
Ernie Martin, Chairman, Alliance of Historic Neighborhoods  
Renee Menzel, Conference Coordinator

9:30-9:50 a.m. Congressman Clay Shaw, Jr. – (introduced by Ernie?)

10:00-10:10—Heather Mitchell, Executive Director, Florida Trust for Historic Preservation (introduced by Becky?)

10:15—12:15 --Stanley Lowe, Director of Public Housing, Pittsburgh  
Howard Slaughter, Director of Fannie Mae, Pittsburgh  
Scott Brown, Senior Vice President, Mellon Bank  
(all introduced by Renee)

Break

12:30-1:15—Lunch

1:15-1:45—West Palm Beach (introduced by Jim Keane?)

1:45-2:00—Ellen Uguccioni, Historic Preservation Director of the City of Coral Gables (introduced by Renee?)

2:00-2:15—Victor Diaz, attorney and one of forces behind Miami Beach's successful ordinance (?) (introduced by Becky?)

2:15-3:00—Panel of City of Miami Commissioners and Staff (introduced by Ernie?) and audience discussing topic of  
"What do we need to do to help Miami and its residents reap the economic benefits of their historic resources and neighborhoods?"